

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Periodic Reporting
(Proposal Three)

Docket No. RM2015-11

CHAIRMAN'S INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 1

(Issued July 21, 2015)

To clarify the Postal Service's petition to consider a change in analytical principles, filed July 14, 2015,¹ the Postal Service is requested to provide written responses to the following questions. Answers to each question should be provided as soon as they are developed, but no later than July 31, 2015.

1. The Postal Service states that "a portion of the letter Mail Exit Points (MEPs) would be identified as eligible for sampling digitally." *Id.* at 3.
 - a. Please provide the criteria used to determine which MEPs will be transitioned to digital sampling.
 - b. Please provide the percentage of the total number of mail pieces that are currently sampled (using the manual methodology) that would be digitally sampled under the proposal.
 - c. Please provide the number, and the percentage, of MEPs that will be converted to digital sampling.
2. The Postal Service states that digital sampling will occur at "predefined sampling intervals." *Id.* at 5, n.1.
 - a. Please provide the frequency of mail sampling intervals under the existing manual methodology.

¹ Petition of the United States Postal Service Requesting Initiation of a Proceeding to Consider a Proposed Change in Analytical Principles (Proposal Three), July 14, 2015 (Petition).

- b. Please provide the volume (number of mail pieces) of mail that is sampled under the existing manual methodology.
 - c. Please confirm that the sampling intervals currently applied by data collectors to physical mail pieces are the same as the sampling intervals proposed to be applied by data collectors to digital images of mail pieces. If not confirmed, please explain the differences and the rationale for the change.
- 3. The Postal Service states that it will use “DPS mail weight and shape information from live mail ODIS-RPW tests” as a distribution key for the weight and shape information not provided by digital images. *Id.* at 5.
 - a. Please confirm that the proposed distribution key is representative of the mail mix at the MEPs that will be converted to digital sampling under this proposal. If not confirmed, please provide the rationale for using a non-representative sample.
 - b. If confirmed, please explain how the Postal Service determined that the distribution key is (and will continue to remain) representative of the mail mix at MEPs that will be converted to digital sampling.
- 4. The proposal notes that cost savings emanate from the elimination of “travel time and on-site time for the data collectors”. *Id.* at 5, n.1. Please provide an estimate of the total cost savings resulting from the proposal that identifies the estimated savings from the reduction in the number of data collectors separately from other sources of cost savings.

By the Acting Chairman.

Robert G. Taub